

SECRET

NSC BRIEFING NOTES

20 May 1954

IMPENDING FOREIGN POLICY CHANGE IN
WEST GERMANY

1. Adenauer (15 May) says he forced change policies late summer if no progress EDC and contractals in France - despite strong public expressions confidence in ratification.
 - A. Contracts end occupation, brings sovereignty
 - B. Many Germans opposing EDC, intrinsically, believe it price for sovereignty
- II. French delays diminish public support for Adenauer's policies
 - A. Press complains about present links between two treaties
 - B. Bundestag debate (29 April) showed Adenauer hard pressed for coalition support EDC.

SECRET

~~SECRET~~

- C. Conant warned (5 May) German patience with present status "near exhaustion"
- D. Sovereignty likely be big issue in forthcoming state elections (summer, fall)
- III. In absence progress, Adenauer may ask Allies for sovereignty declaration late this summer
 - A. This may result splitting treaties, and implementing contracts--but this will raise new problems
 - B. Alternatives for German rearmament unclear; few Germans appear interested.
- IV. Failure present policies likely cause rise in neutralism and nationalism
 - A. Would impair German-American

~~SECRET~~

cooperation.

B. Probably kill Coal Steel
Community